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DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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STATE OF MONTANA

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February 22, 1989

Re: Preliminary Environmental Review
Bud's Wrecking

Bud Morris, Bud's Wrecking, 4540 Birdseye Road, Helena, MT 59601
Fuzz Corsner, Health Dept., City-County Bldg., 316 North Park, Helena
Will Selser, Health Dept., City-County Bldg., 316 North Park, Helena
Board of County Commissioners, County Courthouse, Helena
Bob Rasmussen, Planning Director, City-County Bldg., Helena
Bureau of Land Management, 106 North Parkmont, Butte, MT 59701
Ray Johnson, 5512 Birdseye Road, Helena, MT 59601
Tom Ellerhoff, Environmental Sciences Division, DHES, Helena
Environmental Quality Council, Capitol Complex, Helena
Documents Section, State Library, Capitol Complex, Helena

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Pursuant to the Administrative Rules of Montana, 16.2.604, the following Preliminary Environmental Review has been prepared by the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences concerning Bud Morris.

The purpose of the Preliminary Environmental Review is to inform all interested governmental agencies, public groups or individuals of the proposed action and to determine whether or not the action may have a significant effect on the human environment. This Preliminary Environmental Review will be circulated for a period of fifteen (15) days at which time a decision will be made as to our future action.

If you care to comment on this proposed action, please do so within the allotted time.

Sincerely,

John C. Geach
Solid and Hazardous Waste Bureau
Environmental Sciences Division
Telephone (406) 444-2821

Encis.

JG/ba

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
Cogswell Building, Helena, Montana 59601
(406) 444-2821

PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Division/Bureau Environmental Sciences Division/Solid & Hazardous Waste Bureau

Project or Application Bud's Wrecking

Description of Project Mr. Bud Morris has applied to the Department for a license to establish and operate a motor vehicle wrecking facility in the SW 1/4 of section 4, T10N, R4W in Lewis & Clark County. Mr. Morris wishes to license approximately 10 acres at this location. This PER is to be distributed in conjunction with the Department's review of this license application.

POTENTIAL IMPACT ON PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

	Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments on Attached Pages
1. Terrestrial & aquatic life and habitats			X			X
2. Water quality, quantity and distribution			X			X
3. Geology & soil quality, stability and moisture			X			X
4. Vegetation cover, quantity and quality			X			X
5. Aesthetics			X			X
6. Air quality			X			X
7. Unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources				X		
8. Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air & energy				X		
9. Historical and archaeological sites				X		X

POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

	Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments on Attached Pages
1. Social structures and mores				X		
2. Cultural uniqueness and diversity				X		
3. Local and state tax base & tax revenue				X		
4. Agricultural or industrial production				X		
5. Human health				X		
6. Quantity and distribution of community and personal income				X		
7. Access to and quality of recreational and wilderness activities			X			X
8. Quantity and distribution of employment				X		
9. Distribution and density of population and housing			X			X
10. Demands for government services				X		
11. Industrial & commercial activity			X			X
12. Demands for energy				X		
13. Locally adopted environmental plans & goals				X		
14. Transportation networks & traffic flows			X			X
			X			X

Other groups or agencies contacted or which may have overlapping jurisdiction Lewis & Clark Planning Department

Individuals or groups contributing to this PER. Lewis & Clark County Health Dept.

Recommendation concerning preparation of EIS not necessary

PER Prepared by: John C. Geach *RG*

Date: 2-22-89

DHES/ESD-2

Bud's Wrecking - Preliminary Environmental Review

General Comments

The State Department of Health licenses and regulates motor vehicle wrecking facilities under authority of the Montana Motor Vehicle Recycling and Disposal Act (75-10-501 MCA) and Administrative Rules (16.14.201 ARM).

To be eligible for licensing a proposed wrecking facility must:

- 1) Be in compliance with all existing zoning ordinances on the date the license application is submitted to the department.
- 2) Be capable of being shielded from view of any existing public road. If the license application is approved, the applicant must construct all necessary shielding prior to licensure.
- 3) Not create any significant adverse environmental impacts.

The department has made the preliminary determination the applicant is in compliance with existing zoning ordinances and can effectively shield the proposed facility from all public roads in the area. The purpose of this PER is to determine if this proposed motor vehicle wrecking facility can be established without posing significant adverse environmental impacts.

Mr. Bud Morris has constructed an approximate 100x150 foot (1/3 acre) wooden fenced storage area. This fence is 8 foot high and constructed with 1x8 boards spaced 1½ inches apart. A 10 foot shielded access gate will be installed on the SE side of this yard. The size of this facility will accommodate the storage of approximately 40 to 60 vehicles.

Mr. Morris plans on developing his wrecking yard business in phases with the final anticipated size being about 10 acres. The department will approve each phase only after satisfactory shielding plans have been submitted. Once approved, each expansion must be completed and properly shielded prior to licensing.

Potential Impact on Physical Environment

1. Terrestrial & aquatic life and habitats
4. Vegetation cover, quantity and quality

The vegetation in the vicinity of this proposed facility consists of native grasses and small shrubs. This vegetation probably provides forage and harborage for a small population of animals such as mice, rabbits, birds, and deer. The vegetation within the fenced storage yard will be disturbed and displaced. However, due to the abundance of



materials will also affect, to a certain degree, the aesthetic impact of this wrecking facility.

9. Historical and archaeological sites

No known historical or archaeological cultural resources are within the confines of this proposed wrecking yard.

Potential Impact of Human Environment

- 3. Local and state tax base and tax revenue
- 6. Quantity and distribution of community and personal income
- 8. Quantity and distribution of employment

The development of this facility will establish a small owner operator business. The operation of this vehicle wrecking facility may not initially require any additional employees. However, the employment requirements of this facility may increase as the business becomes established. This employment and the employment requirements for the support services this business will utilize should provide a positive employment impact for the community.

The establishment of this facility and its economic spinoff may increase the overall payroll of the community and provide increased local and state tax bases.

10. Demands for governmental services

The issuance of a motor vehicle wrecking facility license will require administrative and inspection services of the County and State Health Departments.

11. Industrial and commercial activity

The establishment of the motor vehicle recycling and wrecking facility will provide a commercial source of used automotive parts. The re-conditioning and reuse of parts provides a cost savings to the consumer and conserves energy and natural resources. Parts which can not be re-conditioned or reused will be crushed and shipped to a secondary metals market for recycling.

13. Locally adopted environmental plans and goals

The location of this proposed wrecking facility is not currently zoned as certified by the Lewis & Clark County Planning Department.

14. Transportation networks and traffic flows

The establishment of this business will increase the traffic flow patterns on the roads leading to the facility. These increased traffic flows are not anticipated to significantly impact the traffic handling or load capabilities of these roads.



similar unlimited vegetation and habitat in the general vicinity, this loss will not create a significant impact on the area's ecosystem.

2. Water quality, quantity and distribution
3. Geology and soil quality, stability and moisture

U.S. Soil Conservation Service soils data for the location of this proposed facility indicates the soils are from Mauz-Tolman Channery loam series. These soils are typically a loam clay mixture with a slow permeability rate of .6-2.0 inches per hour. Fractured bed rock is typically found beneath these soils at approximately a 2 to 5 foot depth.

The topography of the proposed site slopes to the east and south east at approximately 5% to 8%. A dry coulee is located approximately 150 feet to the east of the facility's location. This coulee drains to the south west and passes under the Birds Eye Road approximately 300 feet south of the facility. The head of this coulee appears to be just to the north east of the facility and drains a very small area of land in the immediate vicinity. The vegetation growth in this coulee does not show evidence of significant amounts of runoff.

Several domestic water wells are located within $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of this facility. These water wells are generally greater than 100 feet in depth.

The improper disposal of motor vehicle coolants and lubricating oils can contaminate surface and groundwater supplies. The applicant does not anticipate generating appreciable quantities of antifreeze and lubricating fluids. He proposes to place drained lubricating oils and antifreeze in drums. These wastes will either be disposed through commercial recycling or at a licensed sanitary landfill.

Some residual coolant and lubricating fluids may drip from the vehicles stored in the yard. This drippage is not anticipated to be significant or pose a pollution potential to ground or surface waters.

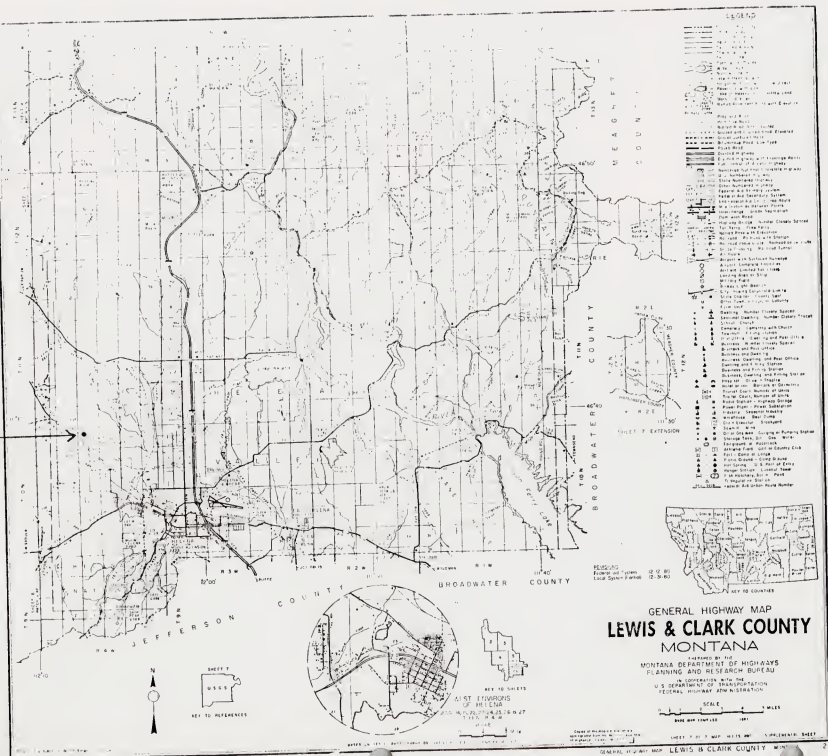
Due to the proposed method of operation, placement of the facility, and relatively impermeable surface soils, the potential impact of this facility on the area's ground and surface waters is considered low.

5. Aesthetics

State law requires junk vehicles and wrecking facilities to be screened from the view of public roadways. To comply with this requirement the applicant has installed an 8 foot high wooden fence around the proposed $\frac{1}{3}$ acre wrecking facility. This fence is constructed of 1x8 boards with $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch spacing between boards, which meets the states minimum density requirements. A ten foot entrance gate on the south side of the yard will be properly shielded with wooden boards prior to licensing. The topography of the area will provide additional shielding of this wrecking yard.

The building of any man made structure impacts the natural aesthetics of an area. The area of this proposed facility is partially shielded by topography and adjacent structure which will soften the visual impact of a man made fence. The applicant's choice of fence coloration and





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PLANNING AND RESEARCH BUREAU
IN COOPERATION WITH THE
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